

## CLAIMS

We claim:

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1. A method of providing notification to an operator of an automation network having an intelligent automation device and a network device located on the automation network, the method comprising the steps of:

5       sensing a signal from the network device;

transmitting an object to a receiving device operably connected to the network for notifying the operator, the object being responsive to the signal.

10       2. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving device comprises means for displaying the object.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the means for displaying the object is a web browser.

15       4. The method of claim 3 wherein the object is a Java-like program.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the intelligent automation device is a programmable logic controller.

20       6. The method of claim 1 further including transmitting a response to the intelligent automation device.

7. A notification system for an automation network having a network device located on the automation network, the notification system comprising:

25       a sensor for monitoring the network device, the sensor being operably connected to the automation network;

an intelligent automation device operably connected and responsive to the sensor, the intelligent automation device having an object; and,

30       a receiving device operably connected to the automation network, wherein the intelligent automation device transmits the object to the receiving device to notify the operator.

8. The notification system of claim 7 wherein the receiving device comprises a software module to interact with the intelligent automation device.

5        9. The notification system of claim 7 wherein the receiving device has means for displaying the object.

10       10. The notification system of claim 9 wherein the means for displaying comprises a web browser.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the object is a Java-like program.

12. The notification system of claim 7 wherein the intelligent automation device is a programmable logic controller.

13. The method of claim 7 wherein the object is an extensible markup language (XML).

14. The method of claim 7 wherein the object is a wireless application protocol (WAP).

15. The method of claim 7 wherein the object is a hyper text markup language (HTML).

16. The method of claim 7 wherein the object is a WML language.

17. A notification system for an automation network having an intelligent automation device responsive to a network device located on the automation network, the notification system comprising:

an object embedded in the intelligent automation device; and,

a receiving device operably connected to the intelligent automation device,  
wherein the intelligent automation device transmits the object to the receiving device.

18. The notification system of claim 17 wherein the receiving device  
5 comprises a software module to interact with the intelligent automation device.

19. The notification system of claim 17 wherein the receiving device has  
means for displaying the object.

20. The notification system of claim 19 wherein the intelligent automation  
10 device is a programmable logic controller.

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